

D-3077CIP



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT

In re Application of:

Russell Pflueger

Group Art Unit: 3743

Serial No. 10/541,255

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: March 27, 2006

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR
TREATING SLEEP APNEA

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August 8, 2006
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Alicia Curran

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

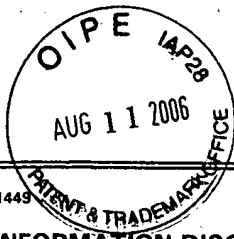
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant wishes to call to the attention of the Examiner the documents cited on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. No concession is made that these documents are prior art, and applicant expressly reserves the right to antedate the documents as may be appropriate. Applicant requests that each of these documents be made of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank J. Uxa
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 25,612
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
(949) 450-1750
Facsimile (949) 450-1764



Sheet 1 of 15

Form PTO-1449

Docket Number: D-3077 CIP

Application Number: 10/541,255

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Pflueger

Filing Date: 3/27/06

Group Art Unit: 3743

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D	4	5	8	6	7	9	06/11/02	Thompson et al.			
	3	9	9	3	0	7	8	11/23/76	Bergentz et al.			
	4	1	9	8	9	6	7	04/22/80	Dror			
	4	3	0	4	2	2	7	12/08/81	Samelson			
	4	5	7	2	1	8	6	02/25/86	Gould et al.			
	4	5	8	0	5	6	8	04/08/86	Gianturco			
	4	6	6	5	9	1	8	05/19/87	Garza et al.			
	4	6	7	6	2	4	0	06/30/87	Gardy			
	4	7	3	2	1	5	2	03/22/88	Wallsten et al.			
	4	7	9	4	9	2	4	01/03/89	Eliachar			
	4	8	2	1	7	1	5	04/18/89	Downing			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
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Sheet 2 of 15

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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4	8	4	8	3	4	3	07/18/89	Wallsten et al.			
	4	8	7	5	4	8	0	10/24/89	Imbert			
	4	9	5	0	2	2	7	08/21/90	Savin et al.			
	5	0	2	6	3	7	7	06/25/91	Burton et al.			
	5	0	3	7	4	2	7	08/06/91	Harada et al.			
	5	0	4	8	5	1	8	09/17/91	Eliachar et al.			
	5	0	6	1	2	7	5	10/29/91	Wallsten et al.			
	5	0	6	4	4	3	5	11/12/91	Porter			
	5	0	7	1	4	0	7	12/10/91	Termin et al.			
	5	0	7	8	7	2	0	01/07/92	Burton et al.			
	5	1	1	7	8	1	6	06/02/92	Shapiro			

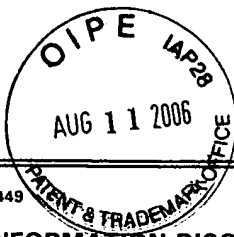
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	5	1	4	7	3	7	0	09/15/92	McNamara et al.			
	5	2	0	1	7	5	7	04/13/93	Heyn et al.			
	5	3	0	6	2	9	4	04/26/94	Winston et al.			
	5	3	6	0	4	0	1	11/01/94	Turnland			
	5	4	7	4	5	6	3	12/12/95	Myler et al.			
	5	4	7	6	5	0	5	12/19/95	Limon			
	5	4	9	4	0	2	9	02/27/96	Lane et al.			
	5	5	3	4	0	0	7	07/09/96	St. Germain et al.			
	5	5	7	1	1	3	5	11/05/96	Fraser et al.			
	5	6	0	3	6	9	8	02/18/97	Roberts et al.			
	5	6	1	1	3	5	5	03/18/97	Hilsen			

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	5	6	3	2	7	7	1	05/27/97	Boatman et al.			
	5	6	4	2	7	3	7	07/01/97	Parks			
	5	6	4	3	3	0	9	07/01/97	Myler et al.			
	5	6	4	9	5	4	0	07/22/97	Alvarez et al.			
	5	6	6	4	5	6	7	09/09/97	Linder			
	5	6	8	2	9	0	3	11/04/97	Meade			
	5	6	8	3	4	5	1	11/04/97	Lenker et al.			
	5	7	0	9	7	0	3	01/20/98	Lukic et al.			
	5	7	1	8	2	2	4	02/17/98	Muchin			
	5	7	3	8	1	1	4	04/14/98	Edwards			
	5	7	7	2	6	6	8	06/30/98	Summers et al.			

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	5	7	7	6	1	4	2	07/07/98	Gunderson			
	5	7	9	1	3	4	1	08/11/98	Bullard			
	5	7	9	7	9	5	2	08/25/98	Klein			
	5	8	0	0	3	7	9	09/01/98	Edwards			
	5	8	1	5	9	0	4	10/06/98	Clubb et al.			
	5	8	3	6	9	6	6	11/17/98	St. Germain			
	5	8	6	8	1	3	8	02/09/99	Halstrom			
	5	8	9	3	3	6	5	04/13/99	Anderson			
	5	9	1	1	7	5	2	06/15/99	Dustrude et al.			
	5	9	5	0	6	2	4	09/14/99	Hart			
	5	9	5	4	0	5	0	09/21/99	Christopher			

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	5	9	7	0	9	7	5	10/26/99	Estes et al.			
	5	9	8	0	5	3	3	11/09/99	Holman			
	5	9	8	8	1	7	0	11/23/99	Thomas			
	6	0	0	4	3	4	2	12/21/99	Fills			
	6	0	1	9	7	7	9	02/01/00	Thorud et al.			
	6	0	2	2	3	4	3	02/08/00	Johnson et al.			
	6	0	2	7	5	1	6	02/22/00	Kolobow et al.			
	6	0	2	7	8	6	3	02/22/00	Donadio III			
	6	0	3	3	3	9	4	03/07/00	Vidlund et al.			
	6	0	5	8	9	3	1	05/09/00	Muchin			
	6	0	9	0	1	1	5	07/18/00	Beyar et al.			

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	6	0	9	2	5	2	3	07/25/00	Belfer			
	6	0	9	8	6	1	6	08/08/00	Lundy Jr. et al.			
	6	1	0	6	5	4	1	08/22/00	Hurbis			
	6	1	1	0	1	6	4	08/29/00	Vidlund			
	6	1	2	3	0	8	2	09/26/00	Berthon-Jones			
	6	1	2	6	6	1	1	10/03/00	Bourgeois et al.			
	6	1	2	6	6	5	7	10/03/00	Edwards			
	6	1	2	9	0	8	4	10/10/00	Bergersen			
	6	1	3	2	4	6	0	10/17/00	Thompson			
	6	1	3	2	4	6	1	10/17/00	Thompson			
	6	1	6	1	5	4	1	12/19/00	Woodson			

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	6	1	6	1	5	4	2	12/19/00	Halstrom			
	6	1	7	1	3	1	4	01/09/01	Rotramel			
	6	1	8	3	4	9	3	02/06/01	Zammit			
	6	2	3	8	4	1	1	05/29/01	Thorner			
	6	2	3	8	4	3	0	05/29/01	Klumb et al.			
	6	2	4	8	1	2	2	06/19/01	Klumb et al.			
	6	2	5	0	3	0	7	06/26/01	Conrad et al.			
	6	2	5	4	6	3	1	07/03/01	Thompson			
	6	2	5	7	2	3	6	07/10/01	Dutkiewicz			
	6	2	7	0	5	1	2	08/07/01	Rittmann			
	6	2	7	3	8	7	6	08/14/01	Klima et al.			

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	6	3	0	5	3	7	6	10/23/01	Thornton			
	6	3	2	5	0	6	4	12/04/01	Thornton			
	6	3	2	8	7	5	3	12/11/01	Zammit			
	6	3	2	9	3	5	2	12/11/01	Meyer et al.			
	6	3	4	5	2	0	2	02/05/02	Richmond et al.			
	6	3	5	8	2	7	4	03/19/02	Thompson			
	6	3	6	3	9	3	5	04/02/02	Boussignac			
	6	3	7	1	1	1	2	04/16/02	Bibi			
	6	3	7	1	9	5	3	04/16/02	Beyar et al.			
	6	3	7	1	9	7	9	04/16/02	Beyar et al.			
	6	3	7	4	8	2	4	04/23/02	Thornton			

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	6	3	7	9	3	1	1	04/30/02	Gaumond et al.			
	6	3	8	6	1	9	9	05/14/02	Alfery			
	6	3	9	0	0	9	6	05/21/02	Conrad et al.			
	6	4	0	1	7	1	7	06/11/02	Conrad et al.			
	6	4	0	8	8	5	2	06/25/02	Tielemans			
	6	4	1	9	6	4	1	07/16/02	Mark et al.			
	6	4	2	7	6	8	6	08/06/02	Augustine et al.			
	6	4	5	0	1	6	9	09/17/02	Conrad et al.			
	6	4	7	4	3	3	9	11/05/02	Grosbois et al.			
	6	4	8	5	5	2	4	11/26/02	Strecker			
	6	4	8	8	7	0	0	12/03/02	Klumb et al.			

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	6,415,796	7/2002	CONRAD ET AL			
	6,431,174	8/2002	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,453,905	9/2002	CONRAD ET AL			
	6,502,574	1/2003	STEVENS ET AL			
	6,513,530	2/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,513,531	2/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,516,806	2/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,523,541	2/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,523,542	2/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,523,543	2/2003	CONRAD ET AL			
	6,546,936	4/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			
	6,578,580	6/2003	CONRAD ET AL			
	6,607,584	8/5/2003	KNUDSON ET AL			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	199 20 114 A1	5/1999	GERMANY (Eng. Trasnlation)				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AA	
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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	6,601,585	8/2003	CONRAD ET AL				
	6,626,181	9/2003	KNUDSON ET AL				
	6,634,362	10/2003	CONRAD ET AL				
	6,636,767	10/2003	KNUDSON ET AL				
	6,742,524	6/2004	KNUDSON ET AL				
	US 2003/0149445 A1	8/2003	KNUDSON ET AL				
	US 2003/0149488 A1	8/2003	METZGER ET AL				
	US 2004/0172054 A1	9/2004	METZGER ET AL				
	5,176,618	1/1993	FREEDMAN				
	5,979,456	11/1999	MAGOVERN				
	6,447,522	9/2002	GAMBALE ET AL				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				
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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	3,998,209	12/1976	Macvaugh				
	4,803,075	02/1989	Wallace et al.				
	4,830,008	05/1989	Meer				
	4,978,323	12/1990	Freedman				
	5,046,512	09/1991	Murchie				
	5,052,409	10/1991	Tepper				
	5,133,354	07/1992	Kallok				
	5,178,156	01/1993	Takishima et al.				
	5,190,053	03/1993	Meer				
	5,204,382	04/1993	Wallace et al.				
	5,258,028	11/1993	Ersek et al.				
	5,281,219	01/1994	Kallok				
	5,284,161	02/1994	Karell				
	5,451,406	09/1995	Lawin et al.				
	5,456,662	10/1995	Edwards et al.				
	5,514,131	05/1996	Edwards et al.				
	5,540,733	07/1996	Testerman et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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						YES	NO
	WO 00/59398	10/2000	International				
	WO 01/19301	03/2001	International				
	WO 01/23039	05/2001	International				
	0 292 936 A2	11/1988	European				
	0 706 808 A1	04/1996	European				
	SU 1553140 A1	03/1990	Russia				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
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	5,582,184	12/1996	Erickson et al.			
	5,591,216	01/1997	Testerman et al.			
	5,699,377	09/1997	Fenn			
	5,674,191	10/1997	Edwards et al.			
	5,718,702	02/1998	Edwards			
	5,792,067	08/1998	Karell			
	5,792,478	08/1998	Lawin et al.			
	5,843,021	12/1998	Edwards et al.			
	5,897,579	04/1999	Sanders			
	5,922,006	07/1999	Sugerman			
	5,983,136	11/1999	Kamen			
	6,439,238	08/2002	Brenzel et al.			
	2001/0025642	10/2001	Conrad et al.			
	2001/0044587	11/2001	Conrad et al.			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

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Form PTO-1449		Docket No.: D-3077CIP		Application No.: 10/541,255			
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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